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X.—*On a collection of Birds from Upper Burmah.*—By LIEUT. H. WOOD, R.E., and F. FINN, B.A., F.Z.S., *Deputy Superintendent of the Indian Museum.*

(With Plate VII.)

[Received 30th April. Read 7th May, 1902.]

In the following paper Lieut. Wood is responsible for the general introduction and remarks on localities where the birds were collected; while the birds have been identified and annotated at the Indian Museum by the Deputy Superintendent. Almost all of the specimens have been generously presented to that institution by Lieut. Wood, and the accession is a particularly welcome one, as several rare species are represented, such as *Trochalopteryx erythrogastra*.

The collection is also noteworthy as containing examples of two species new to the Indian fauna, Père David's Babbler (*Babax lanceolatus*) and the Marsh Tit (*Parus palustris*). It has been deemed worth while to have these figured, on account of their interest from a distributional point of view. (See Plate VII.)

The collection was made in that part of Burmah which is bounded on the west by the high range which divides the Pakokku and Minbu districts from the Chin Hills, and on the east by a parallel range which runs more or less due north and south, distant about 30 miles, and known locally under different names as the Pontaung

Nwamataung, Dudwataung, &c. Latitude  $22^{\circ}$  formed approximately the northern boundary and  $20^{\circ}15'$  the southern. A few specimens were however procured outside this tract while marching from Pakokku, the headquarters of the district of that name and situated on the River Irrawaddy.

The country within the boundaries described above is hilly, the average height of the eastern range being about 1,500 feet while some of the peaks are higher.

From this range the country is broken up by a number of smaller ranges, each slightly lower till the foot of the western range is reached. Along the foot of the eastern slopes of this range there is nearly always a large river which breaks through the range and then turns immediately due north or south and flows in this direction for some distance till it finds a low place in the eastern range through which it can pass. The Maw, Man, Salin and Mon Rivers are all met in this way. The western range is much higher than those to the east. The average height being about 5,000 to 6,000 feet, while Mount Victoria (the highest peak in Burmah, 10,300 feet) is one of the peaks on the range within the limits. The country is heavily forested except in the valleys of the main streams, where rice is principally grown.

*Pakokku*, Long.  $95^{\circ}10'$ , Lat.  $21^{\circ}18'$ , height 300 feet. The headquarters of the district of that name. It is situated on the west bank of the Irrawaddy River and is in the dry zone of Upper Burmah. Outside the cultivation which surrounds the town, the country is covered with scrub jungle.

*Kanhta*, Long.  $95^{\circ}2'$ , Lat.  $21^{\circ}17'$ , height 400 feet. A small village on the Pakokku-Pauk Road; surrounding country scrub jungle.

*Pauk*, Long.  $94^{\circ}30'$ , Lat.  $21^{\circ}29'$ , height about 900 feet. A large village on the Pakokku-Tilin cart-road, situated just to the east of the first high range met with while marching west from the Irrawaddy River. The Yaw River flows about a mile to the east of the village. Outside the cultivation there is scrub jungle which gradually changes to forest as the hills are approached. It is on the west edge of the "dry zone"

*Kyin*, Long.  $94^{\circ}18'$ , Lat.  $21^{\circ}37'$ , height about 2,000 feet. A small village on the Pauk-Tilin cart-road, situated to the westward of the first high range which is met with while marching westward from the Irrawaddy River. A small area of cultivation surrounds the village; beyond this is dense forest.

*Ta-hnyin-taung*, Long.  $94^{\circ}15'$ , Lat.  $21^{\circ}37'$ , height about 2,500 feet. A spur running westwards from the first high range met with while going west from the Irrawaddy. This high range is known locally

under a number of different names but it runs more or less along meridian of  $94^{\circ}20'$ . It is covered with dense forest.

*Tilin*, Long.  $94^{\circ}8'$ , Lat.  $20^{\circ}13'$ , height about 1,500 feet. A large village at the foot of the Chin Hills on the right bank of the Maw River. The cart-road to Gangaw from Pakokku passes through the village. Outside the cultivation the country is covered with dense jungle.

*Man*, Long.  $94^{\circ}17'$ , Lat.  $21^{\circ}18'$ , height about 1,500 feet. A small village on the Pauk-Pasok cart-road, situated to the west of the first high range met with while going west from the Irrawaddy. The village is surrounded by dense jungle outside the small patch of cultivation.

*Pontaung*, Long.  $94^{\circ}18'$ , Lat.  $21^{\circ}20'$ , height 1,900 feet. The first high range met with while going west from the Irrawaddy; on the lower slopes the forest is principally bamboo, which gradually changes into timber trees (teak, etc.), as the range rises in height.

*Laungshé*, Long.  $94^{\circ}10'$ , Lat.  $21^{\circ}0'$ , height about 1,000 feet. A large village situated at the foot of the Chin Hills just where the Salin River breaks through. A good deal of rice is cultivated in the valley and it was on the cultivation that most of the birds were shot here.

*Kanpetlet*, Long.  $94^{\circ}0'$ , Lat.  $21^{\circ}14'$ , height 7,000 feet. At this place on the slopes of Mount Victoria the headquarters of the Pakokku Chin Hills are being built. It at present consists of two or three houses, while barracks for about 60 sepoy are being built. Mount Victoria, the summit of which is 10,300 feet, is the highest hill in Burmah and is the culminating point of the high range which runs from Manipur southwards more or less along the meridian of  $94^{\circ}$ . A long spur emanates from the summit running in an easterly direction, and it is on this spur that Kanpetlet is situated. In the valleys the forest is very dense, while on the spurs there are large open spots covered with grass alternating with tracts of fairly open fir forest. Birds labelled Mount Victoria were shot on the way up to Kanpetlet from Saw, the village at the foot of the spur.

*Dudawtaung*, Long.  $94^{\circ}18'$ , Lat.  $21^{\circ}5'$ , height about 2,000 feet. A range of hills about 2,000 feet high running north and south, the first high one that is met while marching west from the Irrawaddy River. It is covered with fairly dense forest.

*Yinkwètaung*, Long.  $93^{\circ}58'$ , Lat.  $20^{\circ}44'$ , height 5,500 feet. The local name of one of the spurs which run eastward from the high range which forms the boundary between Pakokku district and the Chin Hills. Near the summit the spurs are bare of trees and covered with grass. In the valleys and on spurs below about 5,000 feet there is dense jungle.

*Nwamataung*, Long.  $94^{\circ}18'$ , Lat.  $20^{\circ}4'$ , height about 2,500 feet. A local name of the same range which to the north is known as Dudawtaung.

*Salin*, Long.  $94^{\circ}44'$ , Lat.  $20^{\circ}35'$ , height 250 feet. A large village on the Salin River about 10 miles on the west of the Irrawaddy River. It is in the dry zone and outside the cultivation is scrub jungle.

*Sidôktaya*, Long.  $94^{\circ}15'$ , Lat.  $20^{\circ}25'$ , height 2,000 feet. A large village situated at the foot of the Chin Hills on the bank of the river Mon. A large area of cultivation lies to the east of the village, while to the westward dense jungle comes very close.

*Dalet Choung*, Long.  $94^{\circ}0'$ , Lat.  $20^{\circ}10'$ , height 300 feet. A river which rises in the Arakan Yomas and flows due south reaching the sea between Akyab and Kyaukpyu. The surrounding hills are all densely covered with bamboo jungle.

#### Family **Corvidæ**.

*UROCISSA OCCIPITALIS*. *Red-billed Blue Magpie*.

Two, Laungshé, January 11th, 1902; one, Kyin Village, November 30th, 1901.

*DENDROCITTA RUFA*. *Indian Tree-pie*.

One, Laungshé, January 12th, 1902; one, Man, December 25th, 1901.

*CRYPSEHINA CUCULLATA*. *Hooded Racket-tailed Magpie*.

One, Sidôktaya, February 14th, 1902.

*GARRULUS OATESI*. *Indo-Chinese Jay*.

One, Kanpetlet, January 3rd, 1902.

*PARUS PALUSTRIS*. *Marsh-Tit*.

One, Kanpetlet, January 14th, 1902.

This specimen undoubtedly belongs to one of the races of *P. palustris*. The dimensions are rather large, the length being 4.9 inches, wing 2.5, tail 2.1, bill from gape .4, and shank nearly .6. The colour above is olive grey, or drab; below a dirty drab-white. The cap and nape are glossy black, and the sides of head and neck pure white; the throat black with white tips to the feathers. The bill and feet are greyish black in the skin.

[The specimen agrees perfectly with some Chinese specimens of *P. palustris*, recently procured by Captain Walton, I.M.S.]

#### Family **Crateropodidæ**.

*GARRULAX LEUCOLOPHUS*, *Himalayan White-Crested Laughing-Thrush*.

Two, Laungshé, January 12th, 1902.

*GARRULAX PECTORALIS*. *Black-gorgeted Laughing-Thrush*.

One, Dudawtaung, December 26th, 1901; one, Laungshé, January 11th, 1902. The latter has the under-surface buff throughout up to the chin. Both have the light tips to the tail-feathers pure white.

GARRULAX MONILIGER. *Necklaced Laughing-Thrush.*

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 10th, 1901.

The ear-coverts of this bird are *entirely* black; tips of tail pure white.

BABAX LANCEOLATUS. *Père David's Streaked Babbler.*

One, Kanpetlet, January 4th, 1902.

As this bird does not seem to be well known, I give a description of the specimen. Length about  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches; wing 3'8; tail 5; bill from gape 1'1; shank at front 1'2.

Plumage striated, with the exception of the visible parts of the wings and tail, which are plain olive, as also the upper tail-coverts. Centres of the feathers above blackish, shading into chestnut on each side, with the outsides edged on the neck with creamy white and on the back with olive. Lores, ear-coverts, and eye-brow, white slightly mixed with black; a strong black moustache running into a mottled black-and-white patch behind the ear-coverts. Under-surface creamy white streaked with black, the black streaks getting finer upwards and fading out on the throat, and becoming bordered with chestnut on the flanks; lower tail-coverts plain buff.

From the descriptions and figures of David and Oustalet (*Oiseaux de Chine*) J. Verreaux (*Nouv. Arch. du Museum, Bull. VII, 1871*) and Dr. R. B. Sharpe (*B.M. Cat. Birds, Vol. VII.*), *Babax lanceolatus* would appear to have a uniformly chestnut head, the dorsal plumage edged with grey, not olive, and the ventral surface less striated than in our bird, in which also the tarsi seem considerably shorter.

At the same time, without specimens for comparison, I do not like to regard the present bird as deserving of specific distinction; if it be so I would propose the name of *Babax woodi* for it.

TROCHALOPTERUM ERYTHROLEMA. *Hume's Laughing-Thrush.*

Two, Yinkwètaung, January 19th, 1902; one, same locality, January 20th, 1902.

TROCHALOPTERUM VIRGATUM. *Manipur Striated Laughing-Thrush.*

One, Kanpetlet, January 3rd, 1902; one, Kanpetlet, January 4th, 1902.

ARGYA GULARIS. *White-throated Babbler.*

Two, Pakokku, November 19th, 1901.

MYIOPHONEUS TEMMINCKII. *Himalayan Whistling-Thrush.*

One, Yinkwètaung, January 27th, 1902.

LIOPTILA GRACILIS. *Grey Sibia.*

One, Yinkwètaung, January 18th, 1902; two, January 27th, 1902; one without date or locality.

*ÆGITHINA TIPHIA*. *Common Iora*.

One, Pakokku, November 21st, 1901; one, Pauk, November 27th, 1901; one no date or locality.

*CHLOROPSIS AURIFRONS*. *Gold-fronted Chloropsis*.

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, November 8th, 1901; one, same locality, December 2nd, 1901; one, same locality, December 10th; one, Man, December 14th; one, same locality, December 20th; one, same locality, December 24th; one, Dudawtaung, January 7th, 1902.

*CHLOROPSIS CHLOROCEPHALA*. *Burmese Chloropsis*.

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, no date; one, same locality, December 3rd, 1901.

*HYPSIPETES PSAROIDES*. *Himalayan Black Bulbul*.

One, Yinkwètaung, January 29th, 1902.

*HEMIXUS MACLELLANDI*. *Rufous-bellied Bulbul*.

One, Yinkwètaung, November 2nd, 1901; two, same locality, January 18th, 1902; one, same locality, January 19th; one, same locality, January 27th; one, same locality, no date available.

*ALCURUS STRIATUS*. *Striated Green Bulbul*.

One, Yinkwètaung, January 20th, 1902.

*MOLPASTES BURMANICUS*. *Burmese Red-crested Bulbul*.

One, Tilin, December 12th, 1901.

*XANTHIXUS FLAVESCENS*. *Blyth's Bulbul*.

One Kanpetlet, January 4th, 1901.

*OTOCOMPSA FLAVIVENTRIS*. *Black-crested Yellow Bulbul*.

One, no data; one, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 3rd, 1901; one, same locality, December 6th.

#### Family **Sittidæ**.

*SITTA HIMALAYENSIS*. *White-tailed Nuthatch*.

One, Yinkwètaung, January 20th, 1902.

*SITTA NAGAENSIS*. *Austen's Nuthatch*.

One, Kanpetlet, January 4th, 1902.

*SITTA FRONTALIS*. *Velvet-fronted Blue Nuthatch*.

Two, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 7th, 1901; one, Man, December 25th.

#### Family **Dicruridæ**.

*DICRURUS ATER*. *Black Drongo*.

One, Pakokku, November 23rd, 1901; a decidedly small specimen.

*DICRURUS CINERACEUS*. *Grey Drongo*.

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 8th, 1901.

*BHRINGA REMIFER.* *Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo.*

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 8th; one, same locality, December 10th.

*DISSEMURUS PARADISEUS.* *Larger Racket-tailed Drongo.*

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 5th, 1901; one, no locality.

#### Family **Lanidæ.**

*LANIUS COLLURIOIDES.* *Burmese Shrike.*

One, Pakokku, November 19th, 1901; one, Yinkwetaung, February 2nd, 1902. The first specimen has the *two* outer pairs of tail-feathers white with black shafts, and the *next* pair white with a long black patch on the inner web, the rest being black tipped with white; the under-parts are also very pale, creamy white in fact. The dimensions are also smaller than those given in the *Fauna of British India*, Vol. I, p. 463. The crown and nape are dark ashy, and the forehead and lores black. The second has the tail normally coloured, and pale fulvous under-parts.

*TEPHRODORNIS PELVICUS.* *Nepal Wood-shrike.*

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, December, 1901.

*PERICROCOTUS FRATERCULUS.* *Burmese Scarlet Minivet.*

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, November 4th, 1901; two, same locality December 4th; one, Pauk, November 27th, 1901; one, Mt. Victoria, December 30th; one, Kanpetlet, January 4th, 1902.

*PERICROCOTUS BREVIROSTRIS.* *Short-billed Minivet.*

One, no locality or date; one, Kanpetlet, January 4th, 1902.

*PERICROCOTUS PEREGRINUS.* *Small Minivet.*

Three, Man, December 22nd, 1901; one, Pauk-Tilin Road, November 29th, 1901.

#### Family **Oriolidæ.**

*ORIOIUS TENUIROSTRIS.* *Burmese Black-naped Oriole.*

One, Pauk, November 27th, 1901.

*ORIOIUS MELANOCEPHALUS.* *Indian Black-headed Oriole.*

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 4th, 1901; one, same locality, December 8th; one, Pakokku, 22nd November; one, Tanksoh, February 9th, 1902; one, Man, December 22nd, 1901; one, Dudawtaung, January 7th, 1901.

#### Family **Sturnidæ.**

*GRACULIPICA BURMANICA.* *Jerdon's Mynah.*

One, Pakokku, November 20th, 1901; one, no date.

The birds referred to *Sturnia nemoricola* in J. A. S. B. 1900, pt. II. p. 116 are, I find, of this species; at least the four specimens kindly presented by Colonel Bingham to the Museum belong to it.

#### Family **Muscicapidæ**.

CYORNIS RUBECULOIDES. *Blue-throated Flycatcher*.

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 2nd, 1901; one, Pontaung, February 2nd, 1902.

CULICICAPA CEYLONENSIS. *Grey-headed Flycatcher*.

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 8th, 1901.

RHIPIDURA ALBIFRONTATA. *White-browed Fantail Flycatcher*.

One, Pakokku, November 20th, 1901.

#### Family **Turdidæ**.

PRATICOLA CAPRATA. *Common Pied Bush-chat*.

Three, Pakokku, November 19th, 20th and 21st, respectively; one, Laungshé, January 12th, 1902.

All have the black plumage fringed throughout with fulvous, except the bird killed on November 21st, which shows no such edgings at all except a few barely perceptible specks on the belly.

COPSYCHUS SAULARIS. *Maggie-Robin*.

One, Pakokku, November 21st, 1901.

This is by plumage a female, and has the fulvous parts of the under-surface finely cross-banded with a lighter shade.

PETROPHILA ERYTHROGASTRA. *Blue-headed Rock-Thrush*.

One, Kanpetlet, January 3rd, 1902; two, same locality, following day.

PETROPHILA SOLITARIA. *Eastern Blue Rock-Thrush*.

One, Pakokku, November 11th, 1901.

Not typical, but only showing a little chestnut on the under-tail coverts.

PETROPHILA CYANUS. *Western Blue Rock-Thrush*.

One, Dudawtaung, January 7th, 1902; one, Laungshé, January 11th; one, Nwamataung, February 2nd, 1902. The last shows one red under-tail covert.

OREOCINCLA DAUMA. *Small-billed Mountain-Thrush*.

One, Dudawtaung, January 8th, 1902.

#### Family **Fringillidæ**.

PASSER FLAVEOLUS. *Pegu House-Sparrow*.

One, Pakokku, November 21st, 1901; one, same locality, November 23rd.



Family **Nectariniidæ.**ARACHNECHTHRA ASIATICA. *Purple Sun-bird.*

One, Salin, February 4th, 1902.

Family **Picidæ.**GECINUS OCCIPITALIS. *Black-naped Green Woodpecker.*

One, Pakokku, November 19th, 1901; one, Man, December 24th.

HYPOPICUS HYPERYTHERUS. *Rufous-bellied Pied Woodpecker.*

One, Kanpetlet, January 4th, 1902.

IYNGIPICUS CANICAPILLUS. *Burmese Pigmy Woodpecker.*

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 4th, 1901; one, same locality, December 7th; one, Dudawtaung, January 7th, 1902.

TIGA SHOREI. *Himalayan Golden-backed Three-toed Woodpecker.*

Two, Ta-hnyin-taung, killed on December 5th and 7th, respectively. Both have the rudimentary hallux previously described by me as characteristic of this species. (J. A. S. B. 1899, pt. II, p. 242).

CHRYSOCOLAPTES GUTTICRISTATUS. *Tickell's Golden-backed Woodpecker.*

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 11th, 1901.

This specimen, a male by plumage, has the red of the rump running right up to the shoulders, but shows none on the wings or scapulars.

Family **Capitonidæ.**THEREICERYX LINEATUS. *Lineated Barbet.*

Three, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 2nd, 4th and 5th, respectively; one, Pontaung, December 21st.

CYANOPS ASIATICA. *Blue-throated Barbet.*

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 4th, 1901.

Family **Coraciidæ.**CORACIAS AFFINIS. *Burmese Roller.*

One, Pakokku, November 20th, 1901; two, Laungshé, January 12th, 1902; one, Man, December 26th, 1901.

Family **Meropidæ.**MEROPS VIRIDIS. *Common Indian Bee-eater.*

One, Pakokku, November 20th, 1901; one, no date.

Both very rufous on head, nape and upper back.

Family **Alcedinidæ.**CERYLE VARIA. *Indian Pied Kingfisher.*

One, Pakokku—Pagau Road, November 25th, 1901.

**HALCYON SMYRNENSIS.** *White-breasted Kingfisher.*

One, Pakokku, November 20th, 1901; one, Kanhla, November 21st; one, Laungshé, January 12th, 1902.

Family **Bucerotidæ.****ANTHRACOCEROS ALBIROSTRIS.** *Indo-Burmese Pied Hornbill.*

One, Dalet Choung, February 27th, 1902. A small specimen, but rather over the measurements given in the *Fauna of British India* for the smaller race of this species.

Family **Upupidæ.****UPUPA INDICA.** *Indian Hoopoe.*

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 6th, 1901.

Family **Cuculidæ.****RHOPODYTES TRISTIS.** *Large Green-billed Malkoha.*

Two, Kyin Village, November 30th, 1901; two, of which the data are illegible, all the specimens being very greasy, and mostly unfit to keep. All possess eyelashes, although the genus is stated (F.B.I. Birds, Vol. III, p. 230), to want these.

**CENTROPUS SINENSIS.** *Common Coucal or Crow-Pheasant.*

One, Man, December 6th, 1901.

Family **Psittacidæ.****PALÆORNIS TORQUATUS.** *Rose-ringed Paroquet.*

One, Pakokku, November 22nd, 1901; one, Pauk-Tilin Road, November 29th.

**PALÆORNIS FASCIATUS.** *Red-breasted Paroquet.*

One, Pakokku, November 21st, 1901.

Family **Asionidæ.****ATHENE BRAMA.** *Spotted Owlet.*

One, Pakokku, November 19th, 1901.

Family **Falconidæ.****SPILOORNIS CHEELA.** *Crested Serpent-Eagle.*

A pair of feet with a few feathers attached clearly belong to this species.

**BUTASTUR TEESA.** *White-eyed Buzzard-Eagle.*

One, Pakokku-Pauk, November 24th, 1901.

**HALIASTUR INDUS.** *Brahminy Kite.*

One, Pakokku, November 22nd, 1901.

FALCO JUGGER. *The Laggar Falcon.*

One, Pakokku, November 22nd, 1901.

A beautiful adult example of this species.

TINNUNCULUS ALAUDARIUS. *Kestrel.*

One specimen without data.

MICROHIERAX EUTOLMUS. *Red-legged Falconet.*

One, Ta-hnyin-taung, December 9th, 1901.

#### Family Phasianidæ.

PHASIANUS HUMILÆ. *Mrs. Hume's Pheasant.*

One specimen obtained at Kanpetlet, January 2nd, 1902. This is by plumage a male, and is of the typical Manipur form with steel-blue rump-feathers narrowly edged and barred with white. Only the front of the neck, however, is steely-black, the sides and back of the neck being steely-grey, contrasting with the colour of the throat and breast.

GENNÆUS sp. ?

One female specimen obtained at Yinkwètaung on February 2nd 1902, most closely agrees with Mr. Oates' description of what he calls (*Manual of the Game-Birds of India*, Vol. I, p. 365,) the North-Arrakan Silver Pheasant; but it has the *two* centre pairs of tail feathers chestnut with dark brown pencillings, the rest being black with chestnut pencillings progressively diminishing to the outermost feathers.

ARBORICOLA INTERMEDIA. *Arrakan Hill Partridge.*

One, Yinkwètaung, January 27th, 1901.

#### Family Charadriidæ.

HOPLOPTERUS VENTRALIS. *Indian Spur-winged Lapwing.*

One, Kanhla, November 24th, 1901.

ÆGIALITIS DUBIA. *Little Ringed Plover.*

One, Pakokku, November 11th, 1901.

PLATE VII.



BABAX LANCEOLATUS.

PARUS PALUSTRIS.